

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 DHA-02 SCS-03
SCA-01 A-01 OPR-02 PPT-01 EB-08 SY-05 USSS-00 /096 W
-----261506 061840 /42

O 261414Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5969

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KIGALI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL STUTTGART IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL VICTORIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 BONN 03540

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, CASC, UG, GW, US

SUBJECT: UGANDA

REF: BONN 3533 (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING MESSAGE RECEIVED 1330Z FEB. 26 FROM FRG
EMBASSY KAMPALA:

BEGIN TEXT:

"RE: SITUATION IN UGANDA FOR US CITIZENS

1. MINISTRY OF INFORMATION THIS
MORNING MADE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT:

'SPOKESMAN OF THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
WISHES TO MAKE IT ABSOLUTELY CLEAR AS
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REGARDS THE MEETING OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE
LIFE PRESIDENT WITH THE NATIONALS OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WHO ARE WORKING
IN UGANDA, THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL MEET
THEM ALL FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE FIELDS SUCH
AS GOVERNMENT, PARASTATAL BODIES, THE UGANDA
AIRLINES, TEACHERS, MISSIONARIES AND PRIVATE

BUSINESS. THIS MEETING IS SIMILAR TO OTHER MEETINGS WHICH HIS EXCELLENCY HAS HAD WITH OTHER NATIONALS SUCH AS THE BRITISH, THE KENYANS, THE TANSANIANS, THE RWANDESE AS WELL AS UGANDANS.

THEREFORE THE MEETING ON MONDAY TWENTY-EIGHT FEBRUARY SHOULD CAUSE NO ALARM. BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT, THE MEETING WILL BE CHAIRED BY A MINISTER WHO WILL DISCUSS WITH THE AMERICAN NATIONALS DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF THEIR MEMORANDUM. THE PRESIDENT WILL JOIN IN THE MEETING LATER. IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE PRESIDENT TO THANK ALL AMERICANS FOR THE EXCELLENT WORK THEY HAVE BEEN DOING IN UGANDA SINCE THE CLOSURE OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN UGANDA IN NINETEEN SEVENTY THREE DURING THE ARAB-ISRAELI WAR.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THESE NATIONALS OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HAVE WORKED VERY HARD, BUT HIS EXCELLENCY HAD NOT HAD A CHANCE TO MEET AND THANK THEM EVER SINCE. THE SPOKESMAN ALSO INDICATED THAT THOSE AMERICANS, BOTH BLACK AND WHITE WHO WISH TO ACQUIRE UGANDA CITIZENSHIP WILL HAVE IT GRANTED, AS WELL AS THOSE WHO WANT THEIR WORK PERMITS EXTENDED.

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IT IS ALSO UNDERSTOOD, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED, THAT SPECIAL CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN, TO REWARD SPECIAL HONORS TO THOSE WHO HAVE DONE SPECIAL WORK DURING THE HARD PERIOD OF THE ECONOMIC WAR.

IT WILL ALSO BE RECALLED THAT THESE UNITED STATES NATIONALS DECIDED TO STAY AND WORK IN UGANDA ALTHOUGH THEY HAD BEEN ASKED BY KISSINGER AND FORMER PRESIDENT GERALD FORD TO LEAVE UGANDA. THOSE WORKING IN UGANDA AIRLINES HAD TO FLY IN MEDICINE AND OTHER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES TO THE REMOTEST AREAS OF UGANDA DURING THE PETROL CRISIS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAYS THAT AFTER THE MEETING, IT IS LIKELY THAT HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT

WILL THROW A BIG RECEPTION FOR THEM WITH
CULTURAL SHOWS AND DANCES PERFORMED BY

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SCA-01 A-01 OPR-02 PPT-01 EB-08 SY-05 USSS-00 /096 W
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O 261414Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5970

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KIGALI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL STUTTGART IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL VICTORIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 BONN 03540

THE HEARTBEAT OF AFRICA.'

2. THIS EMBASSY IS OF THE OPINION THAT
THERE AT THE MOMENT IS NO CAUSE TO FEAR
FOR SECURITY OF U.S. CITIZENS IN UGANDA.
WHATEVER AMIN'S ORIGINAL PLANS WERE WHEN
HE ASKED AMERICANS TO MEET HIM ON MONDAY,
28 FEBRUARY, IT SEEMS CLEAR NOW THAT HE
WISHES TO TURN THE AFFAIR INTO A BIG SHOW
FOR HIMSELF. HE MAY TAKE OPPORTUNITY TO
ATTACK US GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT CARTER
AND POSSIBLY ASK AMERICANS TO PRESENT A
MEMORANDUM FAVORABLE TO HIM, BUT I AM ALMOST
SURE THAT NOTHING SERIOUS WILL HAPPEN TO ANY
U.S. CITIZEN ON MONDAY OR IN IMMEDIATE
FUTURE. FROM ALL CIRCUMSTANCES IT CAN BE
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ASSUMED THAT MEETING ON MONDAY WILL END SIMILARLY TO MEETING OF AMIN WITH THE BRITISH IN AUGUST 1976, WHEN BRITAIN BROKE RELATIONS WITH UGANDA. I AM SUPPORTED IN MY ASSESSMENT BY FRENCH AMBASSADOR AND ALSO LIBYAN CHARGE, WHO ASSURED ME LAST NIGHT THAT IT WAS HIS OPINION THAT NOTHING WOULD HAPPEN TO AMERICANS ON MONDAY. THE ONLY DANGER SEEN BY THIS EMBASSY AND OTHERS IS THAT LOCALLY U.S. CITIZENS MIGHT PANIC AND REACT IN WRONG WAY.

3. ADDITIONAL SECURITY FOR U.S. CITIZENS MUST BE SEEN IN 20 TO 30 AMERICANS WORKING FOR UGANDA AIRLINES FLYING THE COUNTRY'S ONLY C-130 AND BOEING 707. IF IT IS STILL POSSIBLE, IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA IF A HIGH-RANKING REPRESENTATIVE OF PAGE-GULF-STREAM CORP., NEW YORK AND SYRACUSE, WHICH EMPLOYS PILOTS AND CREWS, COULD COME TO UGANDA TO ATTEND MEETING. CHAIRMAN OF COMPANY WAS HERE IN JANUARY 1977 AND PERSONAL GUEST OF AMIN. ALSO MR. HANHER, VICE CHAIRMAN OF SAME COMPANY AND UGANDAN HONORARY CONSUL IN NEW YORK, IS ON GOOD TERMS WITH GOVERNMENT HERE.

4. EMBASSY WAS INFORMED THAT AMERICAN TELEVISION TEAM FROM NBC, LONDON, WILL ARRIVE HERE SUNDAY NIGHT BY SABENA FLIGHT 497, TRYING TO COVER THE MEETING OF AMERICANS WITH AMIN. NAMES OF JOURNALISTS ARE: KLAUS DEHMEL, GERMAN NATIONALS, AND FRED BRIGGS, AMERICAN. EMBASSY WILL DO EVERYTHING TO ASSIST THEM TO COVER EVENT.

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5. THIS EMBASSY IS BEING CONTACTED CONSTANTLY BY AMERICANS LIVING IN UGANDA AND GIVES ADVICE TO REMAIN CALM AND NOT TO PANIC AND THAT ANY WRONG MOVE MIGHT CAUSE WRONG REACTION BY LOWER RANKS OF ARMED OR SECURITY FORCES. SPOKESMAN OF WHITE FATHERS IN FORT PORTAL, REV. J.P. KEEFE, REPRESENTING

35 AMERICANS ALONE IS PRESENTLY IN EMBASSY
AND REPORTS THAT LOCAL AUTHORITIES ARE
COOPERATIVE AND THAT THEY ALL COME ON
MONDAY. ONLY PROBLEM HE SEES IS THAT

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 03 BONN 03540

INDIVIDUAL AMERICANS MIGHT SPEAK UP ON
KILLINGS STILL GOING ON IN THE COUNTRY.
EMBASSY URGENTLY REQUESTS NOT TO LET ANY
DETAILS OF THIS EMBASSY'S REPORTS BE PASSED
TO PERSONS OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT ESPECIALLY
NOT TO MEDIA. EMBASSY HAS IMPRESSION FROM
RADIO-NEWS THAT SOME OF THE DETAILS OF THIS
EMBASSY'S REPORT NO. 78 DATED 25-2-1977
(BONN 3533) MIGHT HAVE LEAKED TO AMERICAN
AND BRITISH MEDIA. IT IS ALSO KINDLY RE-
QUESTED TO GIVE HOME TELEPHONE NUMBERS
OF STAFF MEMBERS OF THIS EMBASSY ONLY TO
RELATIVES OF US CITIZENS LIVING IN UGANDA
AND NOT TO NEWS REPORTERS. THIS EMBASSY
IS CONSTANTLY CALLED BY JOURNALISTS FROM

ALL OVER THE USA AND ASKED TO GIVE PRESS
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INTERVIEWS. IT IS RECALLED THAT ITALIAN
AMBASSADOR WHEN IN JUNE 1976 CRISIS MADE
STATEMENT TO NBC WAS DECLARED 'PERSONA
NON GRATA' WITHIN 24 HOURS. THIS EMBASSY
THEREFORE WILL REFER ALL TELEPHONE CALLS
MADE BY PRESS FROM AMERICA TO DEPARTMENT
OF STATE.
ELLERKMANN"

END TEXT:
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CITIZEN PROTECTION, PROTECTIVE SECURITY, TEXT, MEETINGS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977026/aaaaafbz.tel
Line Count: 296
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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SAS ID: 3370681
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UGANDA
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, CASC, UG, GE, US, (AMIN DADA, IDI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5298acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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